AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of the claims below will replace all prior versions and listing of claims:

Listing of Claims

Claims 1–43 *(Cancelled).*

44. *(Currently amended) A* method for reducing the glucoamylase activity in a milk clotting composition comprising the steps of:

(i) providing a medium having a pH of 2.0 or higher that comprises chymosin activity and glucoamylase activity, wherein the medium having a pH of 2.0 or higher is derived from the cultivation of an organism that is a bacterial species, a yeast species, or a species of filamentous fungi, wherein the organism comprises a gene ~~for~~ encoding chymosin ~~that is derived~~ from a bovine or *Camelidae* species,

(ii) lowering the pH of said medium having a pH of 2.0 or higher to between 1.0 and 1.8 by addition of lactic acid, acetic acid, propionic acid, or citric acid, and

(iii) subjecting said medium to a pH in the range of 1.0 to 1.8 for a period of time sufficient to inactivate at least 50% of said glucoamylase activity while maintaining at least 75% of said chymosin activity.

45. *(Previously presented)* The method according to claim 44, wherein at least 90% of said glucoamylase activity is inactivated.

46. *(Previously presented)* The method according to claim 44, wherein the medium having a pH of 2.0 or higher is a medium derived from the cultivation of an organism that during its cultivation produces said chymosin activity and said glucoamylase activity.

47. *(Previously presented)* The method according to claim 44, wherein the bacterial species is a gram negative bacterial species or a gram positive species.

48. *(Currently amended)* The method according to claim 47, ~~46,~~ wherein the bacterial species is *E. coli* or *Bacillus*.

49. *(Previously presented)* The method according to claim 44, where the yeast species is *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*, a methylotrophic yeast species or a *Klyuveromyces* species.

50. *(Previously presented)* The method according to claim 44, wherein the species of filamentous fungi is an *Aspergillus* species, a *Cryphonectria* species, a *Fusarium* species, a *Rhizomucor* species or a *Trichoderma* species.

51. *(Currently amended)* The method of claim 50, ~~49,~~ wherein said *Aspergillus* species is *Aspergillus niger* var. *awamori.*

52. *(Previously presented)* The method according to claim 44, wherein the medium having a pH of 2.0 or higher is subjected to a pH in the range of 1.5 to 1.8.

53. *(Currently amended)* The method according to claim 44, wherein the medium having a pH of 2.0 or higher is subjected to a pH between 1.5 to 1.7 ~~to 1.8~~.

54. *(Previously presented)* The method according to claim 44, wherein the medium having a pH of 2.0 or higher is subjected to a pH of approximately 1.8.

55. *(Previously presented)* The method according to claim 44, wherein said period of time is in the range of 0.1 minutes to 48 hours.

56. *(Currently amended)* The method according to claim 44, wherein lowering of the pH in step (ii) is performed by addition of acetic acid. ~~the yeast species is selected from *Pichia pastoris* and *Klyuveromyces lactis.*~~

57. *(Currently amended)* The method of claim 44, wherein the gene encoding chymosin is ~~derived~~ from *Camelus dromedarius.*

58. *(Previously presented)* The method of claim 44, wherein at least 85% of the chymosin activity is maintained in step (iii).

59. *(Currently amended)* The method of claim 44, wherein the gene encoding chymosin is ~~derived~~ from a bovine species.

60. *(Currently amended)* A method for reducing the glucoamylase activity in a milk clotting composition comprising the steps of:

(i) providing a medium having a pH of 2.0 or higher that comprises chymosin activity and glucoamylase activity, wherein the medium having a pH of 2.0 or higher is derived from the

cultivation of an organism that is a bacterial species, a yeast species, or a species of filamentous fungi, wherein the organism comprises a gene ~~for~~ encoding chymosin ~~that is derived~~ from a bovine or *Camelidae* species,

(ii) lowering the pH of said medium having a pH of 2.0 or higher to between 1.0 and 1.7 ~~1.8~~ by addition of an inorganic acid, and

(iii) subjecting said medium to a pH in the range of 1.0 to 1.7 ~~1.8~~ for a period of time sufficient to inactivate at least 50% of said glucoamylase activity while maintaining at least 75% of said chymosin activity.

61. *(Previously presented)* The method according to claim 60, wherein at least 90% of said glucoamylase activity is inactivated.

62. *(Previously presented)* The method according to claim 60, wherein the medium having a pH of 2.0 or higher is a medium derived from the cultivation of an organism that during its cultivation produces said chymosin activity and said glucoamylase activity.

63. *(Previously presented)* The method according to claim 60, wherein the bacterial species is a gram negative bacterial species or a gram positive species.

64. *(Previously presented)* The method according to claim 63, wherein the bacterial species is *E. coli* or *Bacillus.*

65. *(Previously presented)* The method according to claim 60, where the yeast species is *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*, a methylotrophic yeast species or a *Klyuveromyces* species.

66. *(Previously presented)* The method according to claim 60, wherein the species of filamentous fungi is an *Aspergillus* species, a *Cryphonectria* species, a *Fusarium* species, a *Rhizomucor* species or a *Trichoderma* species.

67. *(Previously presented)* The method of claim 66, wherein said *Aspergillus* species is *Aspergillus niger* var. *awamori.*

68. *(Currently amended)* The method according to claim 60, wherein the medium having a pH of 2.0 or higher is subjected to a pH in the range of 1.5 to 1.7 ~~1.8~~.

69. *(Currently amended)* The method according to claim 60, wherein the medium having a pH of 2.0 or higher is subjected to a pH between 1.5 to 1.7 ~~to 1.8~~.

70. *(Currently amended)* The method according to claim 60, wherein the medium having a pH of 2.0 or higher is subjected to a pH of approximately 1.7 ~~1.8~~.

71. *(Previously presented)* The method according to claim 60, wherein said period of time is in the range of 0.1 minutes to 48 hours.

72. *(Previously presented)* The method according to claim 60, wherein the yeast species is selected from *Pichia pastoris* and *Klyuveromyces lactis*.

73. *(Currently amended)* The method of claim 60, wherein the gene encoding chymosin is ~~derived~~ from *Camelus dromedarius*.

74. *(Previously presented)* The method of claim 60, wherein at least 85% of the chymosin activity is maintained in step (iii).

75. *(Currently amended)* The method of claim 60, wherein the gene encoding chymosin is ~~derived~~ from a bovine species.

76. *(Previously presented)* The method of claim 60, wherein the inorganic acid is hydrochloric acid, phosphoric acid, or sulfuric acid.

77. *(Currently amended)* The method of claim 60, wherein the glucoamylase ~~gene encoding chymosin~~ is derived from an *Aspergillus* species. ~~*Camelus dromedarius.*~~

78. *(New)* A method for reducing the glucoamylase activity in a milk clotting composition comprising the steps of:

(i) providing a medium having a pH of 2.0 or higher that comprises chymosin activity and glucoamylase activity, wherein the medium having a pH of 2.0 or higher is derived from the cultivation of an organism that is a bacterial species, a yeast species, or a species of filamentous fungi, wherein the organism comprises a gene encoding chymosin from a bovine or *Camelidae* species,

(ii) lowering the pH of said medium having a pH of 2.0 or higher to between 1.0 and 1.8 by addition of inorganic acid and an organic acid, wherein the organic acid is acetic acid or propionic acid; and

(iii) subjecting said medium to a pH in the range of 1.0 to 1.8 for a period of time sufficient to inactivate at least 50% of said glucoamylase activity while maintaining at least 75% of said chymosin activity.